

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are pending in this application. Applicant appreciates the Office Action's indication that claims 2-11 contain allowable subject matter.

By this Amendment, the specification is amended to remove underlining, as the Examiner requested. No new matter is added. (The amendments made to the specification are not showing in mark-ups, so as to avoid potential confusion between the underlining associated with mark-ups and the underlining intended to be deleted.)

Applicant thanks Examiners Mahoney and Blackman for the courtesy extended to Applicant's representative, Mr. Luo, during the May 24, 2005, personal interview. The substance of the personal interview is incorporated in the following remarks.

The Office Action objects to the specification. The specification is amended, as the Examiner requested. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the specification is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent 5,951,136 to Furuhashi et al. in view of U.S. Patent 3,117,489 to Wilton. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action acknowledges that Furuhashi does not disclose or suggest an intake opening that is formed in a surface of a case disposed with leg portions, and an intake surface of an intake fan being disposed at an inclination with respect to a plan of the case in which the intake opening is formed, but asserts that Wilton supplies this missing subject matter. However, Wilton does not supply this missing subject matter.

In particular, Furuhashi discloses a projector with an air-intake opening 150 located in the bottom surface. See Figs. 2B and 3, and col. 10, lines 40-46. As acknowledged in the Office Action, Furuhashi does not disclose or suggest an intake fan whose intake surface is disposed at an inclination with respect to the bottom surface where the intake opening 150 is located.

On the other hand, Wilton discloses a projector having a fan with an inclination with respect to an air-intake opening 12. See Fig. 2 and col. 1, lines 44-54. However, the intake opening is formed in the front surface, but not in the bottom surface.

The Office Action asserts that one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated by the teaching of Furuhashi and Wilton to combine the "inclined fan" feature and the "bottom-surface opening" of Wilton. In particular, the Office Action asserts that the motivation would have been for an improved heat-dissipating system, as taught by Wilton at col. 1, lines 15-18. (See the Office Action at page 3, the third full paragraph.)

However, this asserted motivation would not have been a motivation for combining the inclined fan of Wilton with the bottom-surface opening of Furuhashi. In particular, this asserted motivation merely suggests the provision of an air-intake opening, such as Wilton's air-intake opening 12 formed in the front surface, to improve heat dissipation. This asserted motivation does not concern the location of the intake opening 12. Furuhashi and Wilton do not recognize the problem associated with an intake fan being close to an opening formed in the bottom surface where leg portions are formed. (See the specification of the present application at, for example, paragraph [0012].) Thus, the asserted motivation does not provide an incentive to change the location of the intake opening 12 from the front surface to the bottom surface to improve heat dissipation.

For example, although Wilton's primary object is to provide an improved heat-dissipating system (see col. 1, lines 15-18), this object is achieved by providing the intake opening (inlet) 12. See col. 2, lines 58-68. The intake opening 12 is formed in the front surface of the projector. See Fig. 2. There is no teaching in Wilton that an improved heat-dissipating system relies on the inclination of the fan 50. Thus, even if one of ordinary skill would have been motivated to provide an air-intake opening, such as the air-intake opening 12 formed in the front surface of Wilton, to improve heat dissipation, the ordinary skill in the art would not have

been motivated by Wilton to provide an inclined fan into Furuata in order to improve Furuata's heat participation.

It appears that the Office Action was engaging in impermissible hindsight reconstruction by using the present application as a road map to pick and choose features out of the prior art. Thus, the Office Action has failed to bear its burden to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, because it has failed to show any motivation for combining Furuata and Wilton.

During the personal interview, Examiner Mahoney advised that the inclined fan 50 of Wilton provides air flow in two components: a vertical component and a horizontal component. Examiner Mahoney further advised that an explanation be provided as to why one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to combine the "bottom-surface opening" of Furuata with the "vertical air component" generated by the inclined fan of Wilton.

Applicant thanks Examiner Mahoney for his advice, and provides an explanation below.

Applicant agrees that Wilton's inclined fan provides airflow in both the vertical and horizontal directions. However, the provision of the horizontal and the vertical components is immaterial, because it would not have been a motivation for combining Furuata and Wilton. In particular, the inclined fan 50 of Wilton merely redirects the horizontally flowing air, which comes in from the intake opening 12, into an upward flowing air. See Fig. 2 of Wilton. It appears that Wilton would not consider the inclination of the fan 50 necessary if the direction of the airflow did not need to be changed. Wilton's inclined fan 50 does not provide any motivation for combining an inclined fan with the "bottom-surface opening" of Furuata, because Furuata and Wilton do not recognize the problem associated with an intake fan being close to an opening formed in the bottom surface where leg portions are formed, as discussed above.

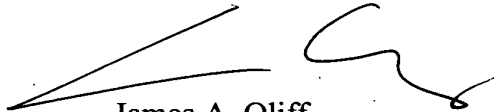
For any or all of the above reasons, one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to combine the teachings of Furuata and Wilton. Thus, Furuata and Wilton do not

disclose or suggest the subject matter recited in claim 1. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-11 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Gang Luo
Registration No. 50,559

JAO:GXL/hs

Date: June 15, 2005

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>
--